IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 5 and ending on page 1, line 10 with the following replacement paragraph:

This patent application is related to concurrently filed patent applications, "Frame Traffic Balancing Across Trunk Groups," by ——Surya Varanasi, filed on ——10/31/03, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ———10/698.851, (attorney docket 003.P002); and ""Logical Ports in Trunking," by ——Surya Varanasi, filed on ——10/31/03, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ——10/699,567, (attorney docket 003.P004), both of the foregoing assigned to the assignee of the presently claimed subject matter and herein incorporated by reference.